

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/863,513	WALTZ ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sunray Chang	2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to March 24th, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12 and 15-23 and have been renumbered to claims 1-21 respectfully.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20011015 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This office action is in responsive to the paper filed on March 24th, 2006.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
 - The claimed invention is a method and steps for correlating text and imagery.
 - The claimed method include a step "training a text search detector to examine the textual material for next regions which relate to the target concept, and creating a text target detection record in a database A in the event of a match or other meaningful association; training a discriminating feature detector to search for locations within the imagery which relate to the target concept, and creating a location target detection record in a database B in the event of a match or other meaningful association".
 - The combination of prior art of record does not expressly disclose or suggest the "method" with the feature of "training a text search detector to examine the textual material for next regions which relate to the target concept, and creating a text target detection record in a database A in the event of a match or other meaningful association; training a discriminating feature detector to search for locations within the imagery which relate to the target concept, and creating a location target detection record in a database B in the event of a match or other meaningful association".
 - The reference Elliott et al. teaches a spatial indexing intelligent agent that indexes information against a database of spatial language which is used in combination

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with a modified search engine that conducts searches using spatially relevant criteria and spatial analysis algorithms Alpha-numeric values from a mathematical system are used for identifying spatial locations and can be arbitrary, geocentric, virtual, and galactic, but does not disclose the use of vivid or figurative language to represent objects, actions, or ideas as “imagery” in claims.

- The reference Hsu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,020,326) discloses a system for object recognition and to a system for guiding users to formulate and use extraction rules to analyze an image and to recognize objects. Yet, Hsu et al. does not disclose correlate the image of an object with a database as claimed.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance”.

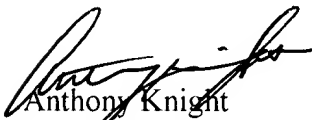
4. Claims 13 – 14 are cancelled.

Claims 1 – 12 and 15 – 23 are deemed allowable.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sunray Chang whose telephone number is 703-305-8744. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on (703) 308-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Anthony Knight
Supervisory Primary Examiner
Group Art Unit 2121
Technology Center 2100
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

June 5, 2006